Fort Mills S.C. S. 23 "52

My Dear Jamie

I have just got through with my labors for this vacation I went to Morganton to get a letter from you but owing to some delay of mine it did not come Perhaps you sent to Columbia If so I shall get it tomorrow for I reach there in the evening this place I have had a hard time but a good one for I have hoped I am doing good. I could if time would permit give you some of the results of society in a state where (by the last census) one individual out every 7 over 21 yrs of age could not read My experience for 2 months past has been good to me I have been among slaves some sold them some books and preached to them in a few cases I have tried to do them good and so have been

well received by planters ~~for~~ I
When you hear of them being sent out
of this country for being abolitionists
you may be assured that in most
cases they ought to be sent out
I have always passed myself off
for a Vermonter yet I have
been well received.
I never found a more happy class of
people in my life among common
people than the slave population
I NO C. could you see what I have
seen you would have more respect
for a slaveholder I have been in
many places during the past year
& and yet I had not seen a
slave struck even a slight blow.
Not seeing you after I purchased
some gold specimens, I think I enclose
the largest is very fine to show
how the gold is deposited They cost
me 75 cts. I have another specimen
which is worth more than all the
rest of these larger than your
fist I do wish you had it for
your cabinet. As it was given to me
and I not wanting it will make it
a present to you if you will promise

to label it "B. Smith's Gold Mine
Gaston Co No Ca.
Near mine are for sale by the
old goat men so try to get a purchaser
for. It was on this condition he
gave it me I will send
it when I send the indian
relics. I have 9 cents set
3 indian eyes & 10 arrow heads.
I wish I had more.

I have must to do this
even so excuse this letter

Yours Respectfully
M. M. Carleton

I have had a contest with a
rattlesnake but he got away

Co Color Fort Hill
S. C.
1853

Fort
Hill

Fort Hill S.C.
Sept 24

Rev. J. H. St. Gregory
Marblehead
Mass

Text of the Carleton Letter

Mr J J H Gregory
Marblehead,
Mass

Fort Mills S. C. S. 23 "52

My Dear James,

I have just got through with my labors for this vacation. I went to Morganton to get a letter from you but owing to some delay of mine your did not come. Perhaps you sent to Columbia. If so I shall get it tomorrow, for I reach there then in the cars from this place. I have had a hard time but a good one, for I have hoped I was doing good. I could if time would permit give you some of the results of society in a state where (by the last census) one individual in every 7 over 21 years of age could not read. My experience for 2 months past has been good to me. I have been among slaves some, sold them some books, and preached to them in a few cases. I have tried to do them good and so have been well received by planters. When you hear of men being sent out of this country for being abolitionists you may be assured that in most cases they ought to be sent out. I have always passed myself off for a Vermonter yet I have been well received.

I never found a more happy class of people in my life among common people than the slave population of No Ca. Could you see what I have seen you would have more respect for a slave

holder. I have been in many places during the past year and yet I have not seen a slave struck even a slight blow.

Not receiving your letter I purchased some gold specimens which I enclose. The largest is very fine to show how the gold is deposited. They cost me 75 cents. I have another specimen which is worth more than all the rest of these larger than your fist. I do wish you had it for your cabinet, as it was given to me and I not wanting it will make it a present to you if you will promise to label it "B. Smith's Gold Mine

Gaston Co, No Ca„

These mines are for sale by the old good man so try to get a purchaser for. It was on this condition he gave it me. I will send it when I send the indian relics. I have of late got 3 indian axes and 10 arrow heads. I wish I had more.

I have much to do this eve so excuse this letter.

Your affectionate friend

M M Carleton

I have had a contest with a rattlesnake but <u>he got away</u>.